THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objectives of the Mission have not been finalised.

(c) The exact time frame cannot be set.

Education for female working children

2140. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that over 88 percent of girl children engaged in hazardous domestic and small scale industries, such as match sticks, crackers, agarbatti, glass, bidi, etc., are illiterate;

(b) if so, whether Government have drawn any scheme to make them literate;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and how Government propose to make them literate?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT [DR. (SMT.) RITA VERMA]: (a) Separate data is not maintained by this Ministry about the literacy status of girl children engaged in specific industries.

(b) to (d) To provide education to child labour, the Ministry of Labour has been running a programme called the National Child Labour Project (NCLP). This Ministry has also launched Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, a national level programme for Universal Elementary Education which aims to provide quality elementary education to all children in the 6—14 age group across the country by the year 2010. The Education Guarantee Scheme & Alternative and Innovative Education (EGS & AIE), a component of SSA with effect from the Tenth Plan, also provides strategies for child labour and adolescent girls to provide life oriented and gender sensitive education.

Flesh trade among Banchhra women of M.P.

†2141. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.